

DEMOCRATS PLAN TO ATTACK ABUSE OF CIVIL SERVICE

House to Join Senate in Fight on "System" Charged With Violating Rules.

(Continued from First Page.)

As unfair political orders extending the classified service, this incident only marks its real beginning. For weeks past a number of Democratic members of the House have been conducting a detailed investigation of numerous charges that the spirit of the civil service law has been persistently violated. They are about ready to present their case on the floor; and they promise that it will be decidedly surprising, both to people who know the facts, but have supposed they were concealed, and to those who have known nothing about them.

The Representatives who have carefully investigated the alleged prostitution of civil service and who propose now to focus the attention of Congress and the public on conditions as they exist, declare they will show, first in the hearings of the Foreign Affairs Committee and finally in the House, that President Taft, by the ever-ready Executive order, has been party to the practices which in many instances have resulted in the defeat of the spirit of civil service.

In the consular and diplomatic service the investigators claim to have discovered that the so-called application of civil service rules has been a bit of a comedy for Republicans in the foreign service. They propose to show that of the appointments in the consular and diplomatic service since 1906 more than 50 per cent have been given to men of Republican faith.

The Hair-Cut Test. "Undesirable" Democratic aspirants for positions in the foreign service have been eliminated by means which the investigators say they will expose. They say they have ammunition in sufficient quantity to bombard examining boards for the next decade.

The examinations candidates have been required to take consist in explaining of oral and mental tests. The mental examination covers about three days, after which the applicant appears before the board of examiners, where an inventory is taken of his general appearance, the style of his clothes and the manner in which his hair is parted. The latter test, the Democrats propose to show, has furnished means whereby the Republican candidates, for some strange reason, have been given a grade high enough to make amends for what they may have lacked in the mental examination, and therefore give them the jobs.

To ascertain what proportion of the men appointed to or promoted in the consular and diplomatic service since 1906 are Republicans, the investigators have made a careful canvass. The information thus obtained, is declared

to be authentic, notwithstanding the alleged conversion of a number of the office holders since the election of Wilson and Marshall.

Will Cite Executive Orders.

In their exposure of alleged civil service abuses the Democrats will point to President Taft's frequent issuance of executive orders as a bit of unexampled timidity in over-riding the civil service rules and regulations. They also will direct attention to the expenditure of the \$100,000 appropriated recently for the betterment of the foreign service.

It is said that this money was expended in the State Department here in Washington to create a number of new positions carrying fancy salaries, and that instead of promoting deserving and well-qualified clerks, as civil service rules provide, to these new positions, an executive order was issued August 21, 1912, giving outside men the positions without burdening them with tedious examinations.

This matter will be developed by the investigators, who alleged that since the appropriation was made, twenty-five additional men have been given berths in the State Department by executive order, without passing examinations of any character.

Thompson Case An Example. President Taft issued an order January 27, 1913, appointing Miss Laura A. Thompson, who had been a clerk in the State Department, to the position of assistant secretary in the State Department. In a special examination another applicant had procured a higher grade than she, and according to civil service rules was entitled to the position.

An effort had been made to have this woman appointed as a permanent clerk after she had served temporarily in this position since the organization of the Children's Bureau, but by reason of existing rules she was ineligible. An argument arose between the Civil Service Commission and the department, which ended in the holding of a special examination.

When it was discovered that Miss Thompson had received a lower grade than the other applicant who took the examination, the executive order was brought into play to override the examination.

Miss Thompson, who succeeded in landing the position, comes from a State whose quota is already exceeded in appointments, and there was no way she could be reached under the regulations, while the applicant who was winning in the examination proved herself best fitted for the position, is from a State which is underrepresented.

That reason the Civil Service Commission would not join in recommending the Executive order.

President Taft's Order. The Executive order, which in itself explains to what extent the spirit of the civil service rules was disregarded in this appointment, follows:

EXECUTIVE ORDER. Miss Laura A. Thompson may be appointed as clerk (librarian translator) at \$750 per annum in the children's bureau without reference to the civil service rules.

This order is issued upon recommendation of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor and the chief of the children's bureau. Miss Thompson was recommended by the Librarian of Congress as especially fitted for the position, and has served temporarily in the position to the entire satisfaction of the chief of the bureau. In an open competitive examination for the position Miss Thompson stood second in point of rating, but is ineligible for certification under the law and rule requiring the appointment of appointments among the States, Territories, and the District

of Columbia. The Civil Service Commission does not join in recommending this order.

Will Expose "System."

A searching investigation which has been extended to the Pension Bureau, War, and other departments is alleged to have brought to light the existence of bi-partisan cliques of officeholders who have conspired to defeat, rather than promote, the merit system.

In the Pension Bureau especially, it is charged, Republican and Democratic, about thirty in number, succeeded in keeping themselves in the lucrative positions by dint of co-operative activity along lines hostile to the spirit of the civil service.

These abuses and many others are to be exposed in detail before the short session ends. The "system" that is alleged to exist is to be taken up section by section, department by department, and explained to Congress, and for the benefit of the incoming President. It is promised that highly sensational developments will mark the progress of the attack.

HEARING DELAYED ON BUILDING CASE

Commissioners' Power to Enforce Regulations By Fines Is Issue Involved.

Argument of the question whether the Commissioners have the power to enforce the building regulations by imposition of fines for violations was not made in the District Police Court today as planned.

Attorneys Robert I. Miller and George C. Gertman, who raised the point while arguing the case of their client, Francis H. Javins, charged with altering a shed without a permit, were present to test the validity of the penal clause of the regulation, but Assistant Corporation Counsel Williams declared the Government was not ready, and a continuance was granted until next Friday.

Argument of the point that the Commissioners have not the power to impose fines for violation of the regulations will center around that wording of the statute giving the local authorities power "to enforce" the regulation.

If the words "to enforce" can be construed to mean that the Commissioners can impose fines, the regulations as they stand will be ruled valid. If on the contrary the court holds that the power "to enforce" does not imply the power to fine for violation or that the power to fine must be expressly given and not given by implication to the Commissioners by Congress, the regulations, in force since 1870 will be practically void, in that they cannot be enforced.

Shouts Himself Wet. NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—Serafino Marconi, on his way back to Italy with \$30, became too enthusiastic in waving good-by to friends, and fell overboard. Now he must wait for the next steamer.

CAPITAL RECTORS ON LENTEN PROGRAM OF ST. MATTHEWS

Maryland Parish Arranges Its Services for Fast Days Before Easter.

HYATTSVILLE, Md., Jan. 31.—The feature of the Lenten program arranged by the Rev. Henry Thomas, rector of St. Matthew's parish, is a Sunday school rally, to be held on Easter Sunday afternoon in Masonic Hall.

The churches comprising Mr. Thomas' parish are Pinkney Memorial, Hyattsville, St. Luke's, Bladensburg, and St. John's, Mt. Rainier.

Services will be held each Friday night at 8 o'clock during Lent in Pinkney Memorial Church by the following ministers: February 7, the Rev. William Taylor Snyder, of the Church of the Incarnation, Washington; February 14, the Rev. C. Ernest Smith, of St. Thomas' Church, Washington; February 21, the Rev. J. Jay Dimon, of St. Andrew's Church, Washington; February 28, the Rev. J. Allen Griffith, of St. Matthew's Church, Washington; March 7, the Rev. William R. Bushby, of St. John's Church, Georgetown; March 14, the Rev. W. J. D. Thomas, of the Church of Our Savior, Brookland.

On Easter Sunday holy communion will be celebrated at 7:30 o'clock a. m. and at 11 o'clock a. m. prayer and sermon will be held.

be held and the sacrament of the holy communion administered.

Easter services will be celebrated at St. John's Church, Mt. Rainier, at 11 o'clock a. m. when the holy communion will be administered. This service will be in charge of the Rev. Mr. McKee.

The Christian Endeavor societies of the several churches in Hyattsville and Riverdale will celebrate "Young Peoples' Day" next Sunday, February 2.

Wilson Sorry He Will Have to Wear Silk Hat

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 31.—For the first time since a year ago last summer, President-elect Wilson will wear a silk hat at his inauguration in Washington.

"I regret to say I will have to submit to conventions long enough to wear a silk hat," he laughingly said when gossiping about his inauguration ceremonies. "It will be the first time since I reviewed the State guard at Sea Girt a year ago last summer."

On the half-dozen occasions when Governor Wilson has worn evening clothes since election he has appeared with his constant brown fedora.

Missing Boys Found At Harpers Ferry

John W. Munson, thirteen years old, and Raymond Sothorn, aged fourteen, both of 5 Clark place, Georgetown, who had been missing since Sunday, were located today in Harpers Ferry, W. Va. A message received at Police Headquarters said the mayor of Harpers Ferry had the two boys. Their parents were notified and arrangements were made for their return to Washington.

It is believed the boys walked part of the way to the ferry, following the row path along the canal. There are no boats running all the way to Harpers Ferry, as the water has been drained from several of the levels.

LORD PERCY PLANS TO EXAMINE SCOUTS

Boys Will Take Tests While on Six-mile Hike to Tide-water.

Various second-class scout examinations are to be taken tomorrow by members of Boy Scout Troop No. 22, of which Lord Eustace Percy, third secretary of the British embassy, is scoutmaster, while on a long "hike" which will start from Cabin John Bridge.

Troop No. 22 will be accompanied by Troop No. 30, of which Vernon Bailey is scoutmaster, and Troop No. 20, J. V. Hyde, scoutmaster. Assistant Scout Commissioner Frank C. Wood will accompany the boys on the hike and will conduct the examinations. Members of Troop No. 22 will meet at the Boy Scout headquarters in the District Building shortly before 9 o'clock.

They will ride to Cabin John Bridge on a street car to start on their six-mile hike to Tide-water. At Dupont Circle they will be met by Troop No. 30, and at Thirty-sixth street and Prospect avenue by Troop No. 20.

The examinations to be given members of Lord Percy's troop will include fire-fighting, cooking, first aid, signaling, and other Boy Scout activities. It is expected about sixty-five boys will go on the hike.

Girl Burns Barn.

NEW BRUNSWICK, Jan. 30.—Haunted by memory of a watch dog's death howls, Julia Schlosser, fifteen, confessed that she had burned the barn in which the animal perished. The loss was \$3,000.

Would Make Immigrant Males Bring Families

In an address at the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Senator William J. Dillingham of Vermont, chairman of the Immigration Commission, set forth many facts regarding immigration conditions.

About 65 per cent of the immigrants are males, and Senator Dillingham said it was detrimental that so many men were allowed to enter.

"In view of the fact that many of these men are married and leave their wives and children in the old country," said the Senator, "it is a good thing for the nation to rule that only married men accompanied by their families shall enter the gates."

Want Him Back.

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Jan. 31.—Students of Wesleyan University are considering a strike for the reinstatement of Prof. William Fisher, who suggested abolition of churches and "good times" on Sunday.

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\$20 & \$25 O'coats \$12.75

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ELY'S CREAM BALM OPENS CLOGGED NOSTRILS AND HEAD--CATARRH GOES

Instantly Clears Air Passages; You Breathe Freely, Nasty Discharge Stops, Head Colds and Dull Headache Vanish.

Get a small bottle anyway, just to try it—Apply a little in the nostrils and instantly your clogged nose and stopped-up air passages of the head will open; you will breathe freely; dullness and headache disappear. By morning the catarrh, cold-in-head or catarrhal sore throat will be gone. End such misery now! Get the small

bottle of "Ely's Cream Balm" at any drug store. This sweet, fragrant balm dissolves by the heat of the nostrils; penetrates and heals the inflamed, swollen membrane which lines the nose, head, and throat; clears the air passages; stops nasty discharges and a feeling of cleansing, soothing relief comes immediately.

Don't let a cold tonight struggle for breath, with head stuffed; nostrils closed, hawking and blowing. Catarrh of a cold, with its running nose, foul mucous drooping into the throat, and raw dryness is distressing but truly needless.

Put your faith—just once—in "Ely's Cream Balm" and your cold or catarrh will surely disappear—Adv.

February "Move-On" Prices To Be Still More Stirring



We've again done POLICE DUTY throughout our three stores—and, as a result, thousands of pairs of Winter Shoes go on sale tomorrow at STILL FURTHER REDUCED "MOVE-ON" PRICES.

The fact that these are thoroughly desirable, up-to-the-minute Shoes upon which we are proud to put our name—and the fact that they have advanced in Wholesale Cost—has nothing to do with the case—for THEY MUST "MOVE-ON!"

So it's "Up to You" to get the benefit of Tomorrow's Deeper Price-Cuts.

\$3.50, \$4.00, and \$5.00 Highest Grade Values in "TRI-WEAR" and Other Men's Shoes

"VENUS" and Other Women's Boots

The Final Reduction on our leading lines of Men's and Women's Shoes goes into effect tomorrow—and the event is worthy of all the emphasis we can place upon it.

At \$2.95 a Pair You Are Now Offered:

Choice of 35 styles of "TRI-WEAR" and other High Grade Men's Winter Shoes—in the best Tan, Black and Patent Leather.

Choice of 60 styles of "VENUS" and other Highest Grade Women's Boots—in all the choicest Tan, Black and Patent Leathers, also Brown and Black Suede.

MOST ANY STYLE OR SHAPE OF WINTER WEIGHTS YOU WANT—EXCEPT THE "STAPLES"—IN ALL SIZES.

Saturday's Deep Cuts on Young Folks Shoes

High Grade \$2.50 & \$3 Boys' and Girls' Shoes... \$1.89

Boys' and Girls' Shoes Worth \$1.75 & \$2... \$1.39

Boys' and Girls' Shoes Worth \$1.50 & \$1.75... \$1.19

And 4 Child's Styles, Same Grades, Sizes to 8... 95c

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